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[EXTERNAL] The Arctic Wildlife Refuge

1 message

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The Arctic Wildlife Refuge is just that, a safe place for wildlife. Oil and gas drilling are not safe for wildlife.

Rushing into leasing is not what the law requires. The administration needs to comply with all the important legal protections that are in place to protect caribou, water, subsistence, and other sensitive resources of the Coastal Plain. The refuge provides critical habitat for not only Caribou, but also polar bears, muskoxen, and hundreds of species of migratory birds. The Gwich'in people have relied on the caribou for millennia and consider the Coastal Plain to be "the sacred place where life begins." Protecting the caribou and its habitats is a matter of basic human rights for the Gwich'in.

The BLM needs to consider the impacts from all stages of oil and gas, including exploration, seismic activities, leasing, drilling, and development, and any related infrastructure or other activities. The environmental impacts from oil and gas will extend well beyond any actual developments and will harm the wildlife, water, subsistence, and other values the Arctic Refuge was set aside to protect.